GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3605
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2002
MEDICINE FOR HAEMOPHILIA
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that medicine for Haemophilia is not available in the Central Government Dispensaries/Hospitals even in the AIIMS;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(c): The information is given at Annexure-`A`.

ANNEXURE-`A`

(a) to (c): Factor 8 medicine used for Haemophilia patients is being provided to CGHS beneficiaries by issuing an authority slip duly countersigned by the concerned Additional Director/Joint Director of the concerned CGHS-covered city and procured from the Haemophilia Society of India.

Most of the medicines for Haemophilia are available in the Safdarjang Hospital.

Haemophilia patients are only occasionally attended to in Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated hospitals and therefore, the medicine `Ante-Haemophiliac factor` is not included in the hospital formulary. Therefore, the medicine is not routinely available in the stock of the hospitals. In the event of any occasional patient being diagnosed for haemophilia, the medicine is procured by resorting to local purchase.

In Dr.RML Hospital, there is no registered case of Haemophilia.These patients do not require regular transfusion of the medicine. Transfusion of medicine is required only in severe cases of bleeding. Minor bleeding may be controlled by transfusion of fresh frozen plasma, which is readily available in the Blood Bank of the Hospital. Haemophilia patients come to this hospital occasionally and therefore it is not cost effective to store the medicine. However, as and when a case of Haemophilia with severe bleeding comes to the Casualty, the hospital treats the patient accordingly.

It is a fact that the Recombinant factor VIII/IX, which are the important agents for replacement therapy in Hemophilia `A` and Hemophilia `B` are not available at any Govt. Hospitals, including AIIMSHowever, FFP (Fresh Frozen Plasma) and Cryoprocipitate which can be used as substitutes for the above are available in AIIMS and often used in management of hemophilic patients.These factors are expensive and need to be imported, thus have a limited availability.